a user interface module including a first input selecting a categorical dimension for each of a first dimension and a second dimension of a multi-dimensional information terrain; a second input for selecting a numerical dimension of the information terrain; a third input for selecting a subset of the abstract information; and a fourth input for selecting a subset of the plurality of metaphoric objects for the information terrain; the user interface module selecting a portion of the abstract information as a function of the predetermined dimensions and metaphors; and

a virtual reality generator module coupled to the input module and the user interface module; the virtual reality generator module generating, continuously modifying and displaying on a display device a multi-dimensional information terrain that enables a user to simulate movement through and interact with the preprocessed abstract information; the information terrain representing selected portions of abstract information.

86. The decision support visualization system of claim 85, wherein the display device is a visual stereoscopic head-mounted display device.

87. The decision support visualization system of claim 85, wherein the information terrain is updated at least 30 times per second.

88. The decision support visualization system of claim 85, wherein the virtual reality generator module includes means for generating and simultaneously displaying a plurality of information terrains.

89. The decision support visualization system according to claim 85, wherein the input module receives preprocessed information from an online analytic processing source.

90. The decision support visualization system according to claim 85, wherein the input module receives preprocessed information from an online transaction processing source.

91. The decision support visualization system according to claim 85, wherein the input module

receives preprocessed information from a relational database source.

92. The decision support visualization system according to claim 85, wherein the input module receives preprocessed information from a spreadsheet source.

93. The decision support visualization system of claim 85, wherein the selected portion of abstract information is displayed as a plurality of metaphoric objects in the information terrain.

94. The decision support visualization system of claim 93, wherein the plurality of metaphors include geometric primitives.

95. The decision support visualization system of claim 93, wherein the plurality of metaphors include polygons.

96. The decision support visualization system of claim 93, wherein the plurality of metaphors rotate.

97. The decision support visualization system of claim 93, wherein the plurality of metaphors have variable luminance.

98. The decision support visualization system of claim 93, wherein the plurality of metaphors have texture displays for each object in the information terrain.

99. The decision support visualization system of claim 93, wherein the plurality of metaphors have arrow vectors for each object in the information terrain.

100. The decision support visualization system of claim 93, further comprising means for producing sounds relating to the selected one of the plurality of metaphors.

101. The decision support visualization system of claim 93, wherein a subset of the plurality of

metaphors is selected to flash by a predetermined one of the plurality of display, each metaphoric object in the subset generated by the virtual reality module such that it flashes.

102. The decision support visualization system of claim 93, wherein a subset of the plurality of metaphors is selected to rotate by a predetermined one of the plurality of display, each metaphoric object in the subset generated by the virtual reality module such that it rotates.

103. The decision support visualization system of claim 93, wherein a subset of the plurality of metaphors is selected to illuminate by a predetermined one of the plurality of display, each metaphoric object in the subset generated by the virtual reality module such that it illuminates.

104. The decision support visualization system of claim 85, wherein the user interface module includes a first input selecting a categorical dimension for a first and a second dimension of the information terrain, a second input for selecting a numerical dimension; a third input for selecting a subset of the abstract information; and a fourth input for selecting a subset of the plurality of metaphoric object for the information terrain; and wherein the virtual reality generator module is operable to display at least a portion of the abstract information as a function of the selected dimensions and metaphors.

105. The decision support visualization system of claim 104, wherein the at least one categorical and numerical dimension displays the subset of the plurality of metaphors via one of a flashing, a spinning, a rotation, a shaping, a coloring an arrow vector and a texturing of the subset of the plurality of metaphors.

106. The decision support visualization system of claim 104, wherein the selected categorical dimension displayed as a plurality of metaphors in the information terrain is geographic information.

107. The decision support visualization system of claim 104, wherein the selected categorical

dimension displayed as a plurality of metaphors in the information terrain is product information.

108. The decision support visualization system of claim 104, wherein the selected categorical dimension displayed as a plurality of metaphors in the information terrain is operational information selected from the group consisting of profit and % profit.

109. The decision support visualization system of claim 104, wherein the selected categorical dimension displayed as a plurality of metaphors in the information terrain is temporal information.

110. The decision support visualization system of claim 104, wherein the selected categorical dimension displayed as a plurality of metaphors in the information terrain is financial information.

111. The decision support visualization system of claim 104, wherein the selected numerical dimension displayed as a plurality of metaphors in the information terrain is aggregated information selected from the group consisting of sum, count, min, max, first, last, average and average over period sum/count numerics.

112. The decision support visualization system of claim 105, wherein the selected numerical dimension displayed as a plurality of metaphors in the information terrain is comparative information selected from the group consisting of difference, ratio, percent, percent difference, share and correlation numerics.

113. The decision support visualization system of claim 106, wherein the selected numerical dimension displayed as a plurality of metaphors in the information terrain is sequential information selected from the group consisting of sort, cumulative sum, tertiles, quartiles, top/last n, top/last n%, classification and dual classification numerics.

114. The decision support visualization system of claim 1, wherein the online analytical